MIKE BEEBE GOVERNOR

A. HEATH ABSHURE COMMISSIONER



HERITAGE WEST BUILDING, SUITE 300 201 EAST MARKHAM STREET LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-1692

> TELEPHONE: (501) 324-9260 FACSIMILE: (501) 324-9268

ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

February 17, 2009

Christine A. Memmoli Licensing Analyst Global Cash Access 3525 East Post Road, Suite 120 Las Vegas, Nevada 89120

Re:

Proposed activities of Global Cash Access, Inc.

No Action No. 09-43314-CS

Dear Ms. Memmoli:

The Arkansas Securities Department ("Department") has received your letter and attachments dated February 4, 2009 (collectively, "Request"), requesting an administrative ruling as to whether the proposed activities of Global Cash Access, Inc. ("GCA") would require GCA to obtain a money transmitter license pursuant to the Arkansas Uniform Money Services Act ("Act"), Ark. Code Ann. §§ 23-55-101 – 1005.

On the basis of the opinions and representations set forth in the Request, the Staff of the Arkansas Securities Department ("Staff") would not recommend enforcement action for violation of the Act, should GCA proceed with the activities described in the Request without an Arkansas money transmitter license. A copy of the Request is attached to this letter to avoid reciting the opinions and representations that you have presented.

Please note that the position of the Staff is based solely upon the opinions and representations stated in the Request and applies only to the activities as described in the Request. Different facts or circumstances might, and often would, require a different response. The Staff only expresses its position as to the recommendation of formal enforcement action by the Department and does not purport to be a legal opinion or formal conclusion.

If there are any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Shannon Holloway Underwood

Staff Attorney

Attachment

WEBSITE: WWW.SECURITIES.ARKANSAS.GOV

HOTLINE: (800) 981-4429



RECEIVED

February 4, 2009

09 FEB - 9 AM 7:54 ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPT. 3525 EAST POST ROAD © SUITE 120 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89120 ph 800.833.7110 /x 702.855.3040 www.globalcashaccess.com © NYSE: GCA

Ms. Shannon Underwood Arkansas Securities Department Heritage West Building, Suite 300 201 East Markham Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Underwood:

Thank you very much for earlier taking the time to discuss with me whether Global Cash Access. Inc. ("GCA") qualifies as a money transmitter in the State of Arkansas. While I realize we spoke a couple of months ago. we are now writing to formally seek an administrative ruling on this matter.

Specifically, we are requesting an administrative ruling in response to the following question:

Does the completion of a GCA credit card cash advance or point of sale debit card transaction that is completed at either a casino cage or a GCA booth located within a casino premises require GCA to be licensed as a money transmitter?

As background, GCA is engaged in the business of providing cash access services to patrons of casinos and gaming facilities on both tribal and non-tribal lands (each, a "Casino"), including ATM, credit card cash advance and POS debit transactions, and check services. GCA provides its services in over 1,000 casinos in the United States.

In most Casinos in which GCA provides its services, credit card cash advance and point of sale debit transactions (together, "Cash Access Transactions") are completed by the patron at the Casino cage. GCA provides hardware and software to the Casino for use on the Casino floor and within the Casino cage. The Casino cage employees are responsible for facilitating and completing the Cash Access Transactions at the Casino cage.

Currently, in approximately sixty Casinos, instead of the transaction being completed at the Casino cage, GCA operates a "booth" on the Casino floor from which GCA employees complete patron's Cash Access Transactions.

GCA is currently performing Cash Access Transactions as an agent of Integrated Payment Systems. Inc. ("IPS"), a wholly owned subsidiary of First Data Corporation. IPS is licensed as a money transmitter and, where applicable, a check seller. It is important to note that IPS is classified as a money transmitter because of certain additional functions and services it undertakes, which are in addition to GCA's limited services as a payment processor providing

cash access services to the gaming industry. The negotiable instrument – or check – that GCA causes to be printed at the Casino cage or GCA booth, as applicable, are made on IPS check stock and drawn on an IPS account. As a result of GCA's agency relationship with IPS, GCA has not been required to be licensed as a money transmitter in any jurisdiction for the purpose of completing Cash Access Transactions.

First Data Corporation has recently announced that IPS will be discontinuing services during the latter part of 2009. As such, GCA will be performing Cash Access Transactions without reliance on IPS. Accordingly, we are seeking an administrative ruling as to whether, upon termination of the GCA/IPS relationship, GCA's performance of the Cash Access Transactions and the printing of GCA issued negotiable instruments on GCA's own secure check stock drawn on a GCA account requires GCA to obtain a money transmitter license, pursuant to your state's law.

Attached you will find a detailed description of our Cash Access Transaction process, a sample negotiable instrument, and a transaction process flow chart. As described in the attached detailed description, GCA believes that the process flow of our Cash Access Transactions more closely resembles payment processing and settlement rather than money transmission as outlined in FinCEN ruling 2003-8: Definition of a Money Transmitter (Merchant Payment Processor).

As discussed in the attached detailed description, only the negotiable instrument, which is payable to the Casino and <u>not</u> to the patron, is used to reimburse the Casino for the Face amount of the Cash Access Transaction that was extended to the patron from the authorization received from the patron's financial institution.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated, as we realize the time involved to review and grant a license can be lengthy. While we are hopeful that you will agree that GCA is not properly classified as a money transmitter, should your review determine that we are properly classified as a money transmitter, GCA will immediately complete the necessary steps to be in compliance with your State's regulation upon dissolution of the GCA/IPS relationship.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at 702-692-6027 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (Pacific Time) or via email at cmemmoli@gcamail.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Memmoli Licensing Analyst

Attachments

GCA CASH ACCESS TRANSACTION PROCESS

The following sets forth the Cash Access Transaction process that will be in place upon the dissolution of the GCA/IPS relationship and GCA commences issuing the negotiable instruments:

- 1. A patron wishing to initiate a Cash Access Transaction inserts his or her credit or debit card into a GCA access device and requests a specified amount of cash (the "Face Value") and agrees to a GCA imposed fee (the "Fee"). The patron does not enter a personal identification number.
- 2. The patron's preliminary authorization request is transmitted by GCA's third-party processor to the patron's financial institution. Upon GCA's third-party processor receiving a preliminary authorization for the Face Value and the Fee, the GCA access device directs the patron to proceed to the Casino cage¹ to complete the Cash Access Transaction.
- 3. At the Casino cage, the patron presents the credit or debit card that was used to initiate the Cash Access Transaction, along with governmentally issued photo identification, to the Casino cage employee, who verifies the patron's identity. The Casino cage employee swipes the credit or debit card through a GCA provided access device, which recalls the pre-authorized Cash Access Transaction from GCA's third-party processor.
- 4. Upon recall of the pre-authorized Cash Access Transaction from the third-party processor and the Casino cage employee completing certain procedures mandated by the card associations, the GCA hardware prints a three-part document (a sample of which is attached), which includes a negotiable instrument that will, upon dissolution of the GCA/IPS relationship, be printed on GCA check stock, which is payable to the Casino for the Face Value (the "negotiable instrument"). The patron signs the negotiable instrument and initials the Fee line to satisfy the applicable credit card association's requirement that the patron expressly acknowledges the Fee and the charge on the Consumer's credit, debit or other access device is expressly authorized.
- 5. Upon the patron initialing the Fee and signing the negotiable instrument, the Casino employee exchanges the negotiable instrument with the patron for cash in the Face amount. The Casino employee then deposits the negotiable instrument, which is made payable to the Casino and **not** the patron, at the Casino cage.
- 6. The negotiable instrument is subsequently deposited with the Casino's financial institution and, upon dissolution of the GCA/IPS relationship, will be settled by GCA through a GCA bank account.

¹ Please note that in those Casinos where GCA operates a booth, the same Cash Access Transaction procedure is completed at such booth rather than the Casino cage referenced herein.

CUSTOMER COPY

Think

Be Responsible

TORINGERANTE PLEBRAT INTO AVINA GUNELAVITATIETA CALL 2-800-522-47(8)

Pay To:

Test Casino

VOID

Pay The Sum Of: ***\$VOID*** (U.S. Funds)

NON NEGOTIABLE

Fee: SVOID

Cardholder: Card Number:

Reprint

Acet Charged: SVOID Purchased Front

Reference: 11111111111

Date. 01-01-2001

Location: Test Location

Time;

01:01:01

Player's Card:

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS TRANSACTION, CALL 800-644-0639 We called nonpublic personal information ("Information") about you from the following sources

[i.] Information we receive from you are applications at other ferres, and (ii) beforencing about your transactions with ex. our affiliates, or others

We may disclose all of the information that wie collect, as described above. We may this less fully created above to the cosine in which you are not services. We may also disclose information we collect, as described above, to accumulate the performance the highest process on our behalf or to other financial inclination with whem we have joint marketing agreements. If you prefer that we can disclose information above you to monthly interface that a price of these disclosurer; that is, you may direct up nice to make those disclosurer than the performance of the disclosurer; that is, you may direct up nice to make those disclosurer than those permitted by two if the performance of the performance of the performance above you with a special performance of the perfor products of services to you. We meantain physical, alecticatic, and procedural safeguards to guard information about you

www.globalcashaccess.com

CAGE COPY

Pay To: Test Casino

Pay The Sum Of:

\$VOID (U.S. Funds)

Fee: SVOID

Acet Charged: 5VOID

Cordholder: VOID

Address: Test Address

Reprint

Purchased From:

City, State, Zip: Test City, Test State Test Zip.

RIN

Type, State, Number: D CA TestID111

ID Expiration: 05-05-2005

Auth Code: 1111111111 Reference: 1111111111

Player's Card:

Phone: (111) 111-1111

Date: 01-01-2001

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Time: 01:01:01

NON NEGOTIABLE

VOID AFTER 60 DAYS

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Issued by Integrated Payment System Englewood, Coloredo 82 alt/1071

Payable of Wells Fargo Back Grand Innering - Description N.A. Grand Juneilee, Commado

Pay To: Test Casino

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Acci Chargedi\$ \$VOID Card Number. ***********NA

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Auth Code: 1111111111 Reference: 1111111111 Location: Test Location

Player's Card: Vor 3 10000 All Frank US J. Fan Pay The Sum Of:

(U.S. Funds)

Cardinolder: VOID

Address: Test Address

City, State, Zip: Test City, Test State Test Zip

Type, State, Number: D GA Test[D111

ID Expiration: 05-05-2005

Phone: (111) 111-111) Date: 01-01-2001

Time: 01:01:01

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